

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 1289

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS NIACT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ANKARA NIACT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

USMISSION USUN IMMEDIATE

USMISSION USNATO IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE

USCINCEUR IMMEDIATE

DIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L NICOSIA 0862

DEPARTMENT PASS USIA

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT PFOR CY TU US UK GR XF MARR

SUBJ: MARCH 2 GREEK CYPRIOT PRESS ALLEGATIONS

1. SUMMARY: TWO STORIES APPEARING IN SUNDAY GREEK CYPRIOT PRESS ARE LIKELY GENERATE FRESH ANTI-AMERICAN FEELING HERE AS WELL AS HAVING LARGER REPERCUSSIONS IN U.S. ONE STORY ALLEGES KISSINGER THREATENS KARAMANLIS HE WILL BE OVERTHROWN IF HE REMAINS INTRANSIGENT ON CYPRUS AND CITES EXAMPLES OF SECRETARY'S PRESSURE ON U.S. CONGRESSMEN. OTHER STORY ALLEGES U.S. "FLYING MONITORING STATIONS" USING BASES IN GREECE FROM WHICH TO COVER MIDEAST. EMBASSY REQUESTS DEPARTMENT AND AMEMBASSY ATHENS KEEP US INFORMED OF ANY
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PLANNED STATEMENTS OR GUIDANCE RE RESPONSES TO PRESS INQUIRIES.

END SUMMARY.

2. SUNDAY MARCH 2 PRO-MAKARIOS PHILELEFTHEROS BANNER HEADLINES ON FRONT PAGE "HOW THE AMERICANS ARE DIRECTING DEVELOPMENTS: KISSINGER THREATS AGAINST KARAMANLIS; HE WILL BE OVERTHROWN - HE SAYS - IF REMAINS INTRANSIGENT ON CYPRUS." STORY DATELINED NEW YORK, MARCH 1 VIA "SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO PHILELEFTHEROS NO. 92." ENTIRE TEXT, MINUS UNNECESSARY WORDS, AS FOLLOWS:

BEGIN QUOTE: KISSINGER HAS MADE THREAT THAT KARAMANLIS WILL BE OVERTHROWN IF GREEK GOVERNMENT INSISTS ON ITS INTRANSIGENT - AS DESCRIBED BY KISSINGER - POSITIONS ON CYPRUS. THREAT WAS MADE BY KISSINGER DURING HIS LAST TRIP TO MIDDLE EAST IN COURSE OF AN 'OFF THE RECORD' BRIEFING CONVERSATION WITH JOURNALISTS WHO WERE TRAVELLING IN HIS PRIVATE PLANE. THIS IS REVEALED NOW AFTER NEW, UNSUCCESSFUL COUP IN GREECE, ALTHOUGH NO CONNECTION APPEARS TO EXIST. GREEK GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCED THAT THERE IS NO INDICATION THAT THERE WAS INTERFERENCE FROM OUTSIDE.

ACCORDING TO A RESPONSIBLE ANALYSIS BY WASHINGTON OBSERVERS, THESE STATEMENTS ARE PART OF CAMPAIGN BY KISSINGER, A CAMPAIGN OF THREATS, FALSE VAGUE PROMISES AND PRESSURE, DESIGNED TO PROMOTE HIS POLICY. A TYPICAL EXAMPLE: WHEN KISSINGER WAS RECEIVING GLAFOS CLERIDES AT STATE DEPARTMENT FOR THEIR LAST MEETING LAST MONDAY, HE WAS HEARD ASKING NEWSMEN WHETHER BILL HAD BEEN TABLED IN THE SENATE FOR RESUMPTION OF MILITARY AID TO TURKEY - WHICH BILL WAS TABLED QUIETLY ON WEDNESDAY. LATER ON - SAME DAY - HE SUMMONED CONGRESSMEN AND SENATORS AND ASKED THEM TO PROPOSE RESUMPTION OF AID. THE PRO-GREEK MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OBJECTED AND KISSINGER PROMISED HE WOULD NOT TAKE ANY INITIATIVE BEFORE HE MET AGAIN WITH THEM. BUT PARALLEL TO THAT HE TOOK THE FOLLOWING ACTIONS:

- 1) HE PRESENTED TO SENATORS THE NATO SECRETARY-GENERAL WHO SUPPORTED THE TURKISH POSITION.
- 2) HE SENT INSTRUCTIONS TO U.S. DELEGATION TO UNITED NATIONS TO FOLLOW DELAYING TACTICS.
- 3) HE PRESSED WITH INSISTENCE THE SENATORS - AS REPORTED IN NEW YORK TIMES TO RECOMMEND RESUMPTION OF AID.
- 4) HE KEPT SECRET A REPORT FROM AMERICAN EMBASSY IN ANKARA WHICH SAID TURKISH OFFICERS ASKED IRMAK TO ADOPT Milder POLICY SO THAT AID MAY BE RESUMED.

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- 5) HE READ LONG TELEGRAMS FROM AMERICAN AMBASSADOR TO ATHENS ADDRESSED TO U.S. CONGRESSMEN, WHICH TELEGRAMS (KISSINGER ALLEGED) REVEALED THAT KARAMANLIS WISHES RESUMPTION OF AID TO TURKEY.

HOWEVER, DESPITE ALL THIS, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES REACTION AGAINST TABLED BILL INCREASES AND BILL IS NOT PROMOTED AS SPEEDILY AS DESIRED BY KISSINGER.

NOW KISSINGER APPEARS TO BE PROMOTING NEW INITIATIVES BY PROMISING PRESSURE FOR A SYMBOLIC TURKISH GESTURE OF GOODWILL, THUS HOPING THAT DEADLOCK ON CYPRUS MAY BE LIFTED. AND HE ANNOUNCED HIS INTENTION TO HAVE CONTACTS WITH GREEK AND TURKISH OFFICIALS WITHIN NEXT WEEK. UNQUOTE.

3. MARCH 2 PRO-CLERIDES AGHON ALSO PROMINENTLY DISPLAYS ANTI-U.S. STORY UNDER BANNER HEADLINE "IN ADDITION TO U-2 PLANES, THERE ARE AMERICAN FLYING MONITORING STATIONS." UNATTRIBUTED STORY AS FOLLOWS:

BEGIN QUOTE: FLYING 'LISTENING SPIES' ARE BEING USED BY AMERICANS IN MIDDLE EAST AREA, IN ADDITION TO U-2 SPY AIRCRAFT, WHICH USE AKROTIRI BASE. THESE FLYING EAVESDROPPER TAKE OFF AT BASES IN GREECE AND COVER THE ENTIRE MIDDLE EAST AREA, AFTER GIVING A FLIGHT SCHEDULE TO ALL AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL CENTERS OF EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN COUNTRIES, INCLUDING CYPRUS. THESE SPYING MISSIONS ARE CONDUCTED UNDER CLOAK OF TRAINING FLIGHTS, AND, LIKE U-2 FLIGHTS, ARE KNOWN TO ALL COUNTRIES.

AS KNOWN, GOVERNMENT CONFIRMED OUR REPORTS ABOUT THE FLIGHTS OF THE SPY PLANES FROM AKROTIRI, WHICH STARTED SHORTLY AFTER SECOND ARAB-ISRAELI WAR AND THE UNDERTAKING OF A MEDIATORY EFFORT BY KISSINGER.

FLIGHT SCHEDULE

ACCORDING AUTHORITATIVE REPORTS, THE SOUND MONITORING AIRCRAFT FLIGHTS STARTED SIMULTANEOUSLY WITH CLOSURE OF SOME OF THE AMERICAN MONITORING RADIO STATIONS IN CYPRUS, SUCH AS AT MIA MILIA. AIRCRAFT USED ARE TROOP CARRIERS C-135 (THE EQUIVALENT OF BOEING 707). PLANES TAKE OFF REGULARLY FROM AMERICAN BASES IN GREECE AND PROVIDE TO AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL CENTERS DETAILS ABOUT THEIR FLIGHTS, WHICH LAST ABOUT SIX HOURS. FROM GREEK AIR SPACE THEY ENTER CYPRUS AIR
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SPACE AND MAKE CONTACT WITH AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL TOWER THROUGH ORDINARY FREQUENCIES. MOST OF TIME THEY FLY NEAR COASTS OF ARAB COUNTRIES AND ISRAEL, EAST AND SOUTH OF CYPRUS. AIRCRAFT ARE EQUIPPED WITH MONITORING DEVICES AND RADAR INSTALLATIONS FOR TRACING OF ALL FLIGHTS IN AREA AND OTHER ACTIVITIES. THEIR CREWS COMPRISE 15-20 MEN. IT SHOULD BE MENTIONED THAT AMERICANS ARE PAYING REGULAR FEES TO THE GOVERNMENTS OF COUNTRIES THROUGH THE AIR SPACE OF WHICH THE PLANES FLY, EXACTLY LIKE CIVIL AVIATION COMPANIES DO. UNQUOTE.

4. COMMENT: BOTH PHILELEFTHEROS AND AGHON CLOSELY ASSOCIATED WITH AND POPULARLY IDENTIFIED AS MOUTHPIECES FOR MAKARIOS AND CLERIDES RESPECTIVELY. COMING ON TOP OF A VERY BAD WEEK PRESSURE FOR U.S. THESE STORIES WILL ONLY FURTHER INFLAME PUBLIC OPINION AND TEMPERATURE. ASSUME DEPARTMENT AND/OR AMEMBASSY

ATHENS WILL BE PREPARING EITHER STATEMENTS OR RESPONSES TO
POSSIBLE PRESS INQUIRIES. REQUEST GUIDANCE FOR LOCAL USAGE ON
BOTH STORIES ASAP.
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